



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/656,531 | 09/07/2000 | Tim Armandpour | P3929 | 2317 |

24739 7590 03/23/2009
CENTRAL COAST PATENT AGENCY, INC
3 HANGAR WAY SUITE D
WATSONVILLE, CA 95076

| |
|----------|
| EXAMINER |
|----------|

BASEHOAR, ADAM L

| | |
|----------|--------------|
| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
|----------|--------------|

2178

| | |
|-----------|---------------|
| MAIL DATE | DELIVERY MODE |
|-----------|---------------|

03/23/2009

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

| | | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. 09/656,531 | Applicant(s) ARMANDPOUR ET AL. | |
| | Examiner ADAM L. BASEHOAR | Art Unit 2178 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 September 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to communications: The Amendment filed on 09/25/08.
2. The rejection of claims 1-28 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over DaCosta et al (US-6,826,553 11/30/04) in view of Weinberg et al (US-6,360,332 03/19/02) has been withdrawn as necessitated by the Amendment.
3. Claims 1-28 are pending in the case. Claims 1, 12, and 18 are independent claims.

Claim Objections

4. Claim 18 is objected to because of the following informalities: Claim 18 recites "identification of at least one a plurality". Said claim should be amended to read "identification of at least one of a plurality."(emphasis added) Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

5. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

6. Claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. Claims 1-11 recite a software application executing on a server. A software program per se is non statutory. Thus claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 for failing to fall within a proper statutory category of invention and for failing to be structurally and functionally interconnected with the newly claimed server in such a manner to, in and of itself, enable any usefulness to be realized. The software application must be claimed in

Art Unit: 2178

combination with an appropriate computer readable medium whereby the server could then access and execute the stored program. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. Claims 1-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over DaCosta et al (US-6,826,553 11/30/04) in view of Weinberg et al (US-6,360,332 03/19/02) in further view of Heninger (US-6,029,207 02/22/00).

-In regard to substantially similar independent claims 1 and 12, DaCosta teaches an application for enabling automated notification of applied structural changes to electronic information pages on a network comprising:

an interface for enabling users to build and modify network navigation and interaction templates using functional logic blocks for automatically navigating to and interacting with interactive electronic information pages on the network (column 2, lines 11-30; column 5, lines 30-67)(Figs. 1 & 7);

a navigation interface for integrating the software application to a proxy-navigation system for periodic execution of the templates (column 5, lines 19-20: “automatically repeat these steps in a scheduled manner or when requested”);

Art Unit: 2178

a change notification module for indicating a navigation and interaction routine has failed and for creating a data file associated with the failed routine (column 18, lines 43-67: “it is known the script has failed...and proper notifications sent to individuals or entities responsible for the operation of the failing script by email...for example”; column 19, lines 1-15); and

sending proper notifications of the failed script to the developer upon failure of the script (column 6, lines 9-13 & 35-41; column 18, lines 53-67; column 19, lines 1-15). DaCosta does not specifically teach storing the data file in a data repository with a point-of-failure indication, parameters associated with the failed routine, and an identifier of the associated electronic information page subjected to the navigation. Weinberg teaches storing the data file (column 2, lines 39-40; column 6, lines 19-22), wherein the application periodically submits test navigation and interaction routines (column 6, lines 19-22), and upon failure of the routine, creates a data file (column 2, lines 39-40; column 3, lines 29-43; column 6, lines 19-22; column 17, lines 10-52)(Fig. 5F), the data file comprising a point-of-failure indication within the failed routine identifying the logic block of the template that failed (Fig. 5F: column 17, lines 17-21), parameters of the failure (column 17, lines 35-43), an identifier of the associated electronic page (columns 17-18: lines 62-12)(Fig. 5F: “URL: www.mercint.com”), and stores the data file in the data repository sending notification of the action to the developer (column 2, lines 39-40; column 6, lines 15-23). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have stored the failed navigation script of DaCosta and for the proper notifications of the failed script to have included a point in process of the failure along with the an identifier of the associated web page, because Weinberg teaches that by storing the failed navigation script, a developer can easily display the results of the navigation and quickly determine the location of

Art Unit: 2178

the failure of the routine (column 3, lines 29-44). This would have made the re-teaching (i.e. correcting) of the navigation script easier for the developer (column 6, lines 9-13 & 35-41; column 18, lines 42-67).

DaCosta teaches wherein functional logic blocks were part of the navigation and interaction templates containing all of the possible navigation and interaction instructions required by the navigation system-interface module as defined by the a given user/developer (column 2, lines 20-31: “scripts...that locates and extracts data...precisely locating and extracting the select data with a granularity specified by the user” & lines 57-67: “capability for a user to specify...in an automated manor”; column 5, lines 39-55: “learn and store navigation paths...dialogs and forms that need to be filled...login name and password”; column 7, lines 16-28: “captures each user-generated event.”; columns 7-8, lines 55-5: “automatically repeatedly query a web site...upon a single exemplomatic query”; column 9, lines 5-44). Neither DaCosta nor Weinberg specifically teach wherein the defined functional logic blocks in the defined interaction scripts were modular parts of the interaction scripts. Heninger teaches building software components in a modular fashion such that each modular component could be constructed, modified, and tested independently (column 1, lines 20-29). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention for the functional logic blocks of DaCosta to have been modular parts of the navigation and interaction templates, because Heninger taught that computer software developers realize that modular interacting software components provide the advantages of being more easily designed, generated, tested, installed, and maintained as well leading to better computer products at a minimal cost (column 1, lines 20-67; column 2, lines 1-24). Thus the modular software components of Heninger would

Art Unit: 2178

have provided the developers of DaCosta a better way of maintaining, editing, and correcting failed navigation scripts (column 18, lines 34-67) by allowing the developers to fix only the modular part of the failed navigation and interaction script.

-In regard to dependent claims 2, 13, and 19, DaCosta teaches wherein the network could be the Internet (column 2, line 13: "Internet") and wherein the electronic information page was a web page (column 2, line 13: "web site") on the network.

-In regard to dependent claim 3, DaCosta teaches wherein the logic blocks include site logic blocks, automated site-login blocks, and automated site-registration blocks (column 2, lines 55-67; column 5, lines 37-43).

-In regard to dependent claim 4, DaCosta teaches wherein the software application was an Internet based application executing and running on a server (column 18, lines 33-41: "scripts are stored at a central repository that is accessible through the Internet").

-In regard to dependent claim 5, DaCosta teaches wherein the application was accessible through a network browser (column 2, lines 10-30: "Browser").

-In regard to dependent claim 6, DaCosta teaches wherein the templates are test routines executed for determining success or failure of the routine (column 6, lines 9-13 & 35-41; column 18, lines 54-65).

Art Unit: 2178

-In regard to dependent claim 7, DaCosta teaches wherein the templates are executable instruction orders containing logic blocks (column 2, lines 55-67).

-In regard to dependent claim 8, DaCosta teaches wherein the functional logic blocks are modular and self-installable within the templates (column 2, lines 55-67)(Fig. 2: 60, 70, 80, 90).

-In regard to dependent claim 9, DaCosta teaches wherein the data files are human readable and are accessed by developers for the purpose of affecting updating of the navigation templates (column 18, lines 54-67).

-In regard to dependent claim 10, DaCosta teaches wherein the developers access the application via individual computerized workstations (column 18, lines 34-67)(Fig. 7: “User Developer”).

-In regard to dependent claim 11, DaCosta teaches wherein the error notification and data file are performed in the event failure or a client’s personalized navigation template (column 6, lines 9-13 & 35-41; column 18, lines 34-67).

-In regard to dependent claim 14, DaCosta teaches wherein the software application was an Internet (column 2, line 13: “Internet”) based application executing and running on a server (column 18, lines 26-40).

-In regard to dependent claims 15 and 16, DaCosta teaches wherein a single server system hosting both the proxy navigation software and the software application (column 18, lines 26-40).

-In regard to dependent claim 17, DaCosta teaches wherein software application and the proxy navigation software are integrated as a single application enabling both functions of navigation according to navigation templates and notifying and recoding failed instances of navigation (column 18, lines 26-67).

-In regard to independent claim 18, DaCosta teaches a method for receiving automated notification of random structural changes applied to electronic information pages hosted on a network comprising:

- establishing notification of a failed navigation and interaction routine executed for the purpose of navigating to and interacting with an electronic information page (column 6, lines 9-13 & 35-41; column 18, lines 34-67: “email or pager notification”).

- creating an instance of the failed routine associated with the cause of failure (column 18, lines 43-67: “it is known the script has failed...and proper notifications sent to individuals or entities responsible for the operation of the failing script by email...for example”; column 19, lines 1-15);

Art Unit: 2178

-accessing the notification of the of the failed routine for review purposes (column 6, lines 9-13 & 35-41; column 18, lines 34-67: i.e. developer accesses failed script for re-teaching purposes);

-being able to navigate to the electronic information page identified in the recorded instance (column 6, lines 9-13 & 35-41; column 18, lines 34-67: i.e. developer accesses failed script for re-teaching purposes);

-accessing source information associated with the electronic information page identified in the recorded instance (i.e. re-teaching a new navigation and extraction script by accessing the source information).

-creating new logic block according to the source information and according to information contained in the recorded instance (column 6, lines 9-13 & 35-41; column 18, lines 34-67);

installing the new logic block into existing navigation templates that depend on the updated information for successful function (column 6, lines 9-13 & 35-41; column 18, lines 34-67; column 19, lines 1-15).

DaCosta does not specifically teach wherein the instance of the failed navigation routine was stored for future review including parameters associated with the failed routine that included identification of at least one of a plurality of logic blocks used to build the navigation template. Weinberg teaches storing the data file (column 2, lines 39-40; column 6, lines 19-22), wherein the application periodically submits test navigation and interaction routines (column 6, lines 19-22), and upon failure of the routine, creates a data file (column 2, lines 39-40; column 3, lines 29-43; column 6, lines 19-22; column 17, lines 10-52)(Fig. 5F), the data file comprising a point-

Art Unit: 2178

of-failure indication within the failed routine and identifying the logic block of the template that failed (Fig. 5F: column 17, lines 17-21), parameters of the failure (column 17, lines 35-43), an identifier of the associated electronic page (columns 17-18: lines 62-12)(Fig. 5F: “URL: www.mercint.com”), and stores the data file in the data repository sending notification of the action to the developer (column 2, lines 39-40; column 6, lines 15-23). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have stored the failed navigation script of DaCosta and for the proper notifications of the failed script to have included a point in process of the failure along with the an identifier of the associated web page, because Weinberg teaches that by storing the failed navigation script, a developer can easily display the results of the navigation and quickly determine the location of the failure of the routine (column 3, lines 29-44). This would have made the re-teaching (i.e. correcting) of the navigation script easier for the developer (column 6, lines 9-13 & 35-41; column 18, lines 42-67).

DaCosta teaches wherein functional logic blocks were part of the navigation and interaction templates containing all of the possible navigation and interaction instructions required by the navigation system-interface module as defined by the a given user/developer (column 2, lines 20-31: “scripts...that locates and extracts data...precisely locating and extracting the select data with a granularity specified by the user” & lines 57-67: “capability for a user to specify...in an automated manor”; column 5, lines 39-55: “learn and store navigation paths...dialogs and forms that need to be filled...login name and password”; column 7, lines 16-28: “captures each user-generated event.”; columns 7-8, lines 55-5: “automatically repeatedly query a web site...upon a single exemplomatic query”; column 9, lines 5-44). Neither DaCosta nor Weinberg specifically teach wherein the functional logic blocks in the defined interaction

Art Unit: 2178

scripts were modular parts of the interaction scripts. Heninger teaches building software components in a modular fashion such that each modular component could be constructed, modified, and tested independently (column 1, lines 20-29). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention for the functional logic blocks of DaCosta to have been modular parts of the navigation and interaction templates, because Heninger taught that computer software developers realize that modular interacting software components provide the advantages of being more easily designed, generated, tested, installed, and maintained as well leading to better computer products at a minimal cost (column 1, lines 20-67; column 2, lines 1-24). Thus the modular software components of Heninger would have provided the developers of DaCosta a better way of maintaining, editing, and correcting failed navigation scripts (column 18, lines 34-67) by allowing the developers to fix only the modular part of the failed navigation and interaction script.

-In regard to dependent claim 20, DaCosta teaches wherein the navigation routine was performed according to a test navigation template (Fig. 2: i.e. according to the navigation and extraction scripts).

-In regard to dependent claim 21, DaCosta teaches wherein the navigation routine was performed according to a client navigation template (Fig. 7: "User").

Art Unit: 2178

-In regard to dependent claim 22, DaCosta teaches wherein the recorded instance of the failed routine was created in the form of a data file and stored in a data repository (column 18, lines 54-67).

-In regard to dependent claim 23, DaCosta teaches wherein the recorded instance of the failed navigation routine was accessed by a software developer (column 6, lines 9-13 & 35-41; column 18, lines 54-67).

-In regard to dependent claim 24, DaCosta teaches wherein navigation was performed by the developer utilizing an instance of a browser installed on a computerized workstation (column 2, lines 11-30).

-In regard to dependent claim 25, DaCosta teaches wherein the new logic was in the form of a modular logic block installable to a navigation template (column 6, lines 9-13 & 35-41; column 18, lines 54-67).

-In regard to dependent claim 26, DaCosta teaches wherein the new logic block self-installs to a depended navigation template (column 6, lines 9-13 & 35-41; column 18, lines 42-67: “ensure each of the users has a corrected script as soon as possible, i.e., as soon as it is downloaded to the central repository...running the script”).

Art Unit: 2178

-In regard to dependent claim 27, DaCosta teaches testing the new logic before the implementation (column 19, lines 1-15: “determine whether it is operating correctly”).

-In regard to dependent claim 28, DaCosta teaches creating more than one logic block within a navigation template and wherein more than one block could fail (column 6, lines 9-13 & 35-41; column 18, lines 34-67; column 19, lines 1-15).

Response to Arguments

9. Applicant's arguments with respect to amended independent claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

10. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

Art Unit: 2178

however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

11. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Adam L. Basehoar whose telephone number is (571)-272-4121.

The examiner can normally be reached on M-F: 7:00am - 4:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Steve Hong can be reached on (571) 272-4124. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Adam L Basehoar/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2178